

National Library of Medicine Update
ALA Mid-Winter, January 2005
Submitted by Dianne McCutcheon

Personnel

Dianne McCutcheon assumed the position of the Chief of the Technical Services Division on October 18th.

NLM is currently recruiting for a Head of Cataloging and expects to have a vacancy for a Head, Cataloging Maintenance Unit shortly due to an upcoming retirement.

NLM Collection Development Manual

NLM published the fourth edition of *The Collection Development Manual of the National Library of Medicine* in October, 2004. The revised Manual reflects the complex and changing environment of health care and biomedical research. Sections on bioinformatics, molecular biology, plant science, toxicology, and biological sciences describe an increased emphasis on fundamental biological research in fields of biomedicine. New or revised statements on health services research, bioethics, public health, disaster management, biotechnology, medical humanities, biophysics, bioengineering, biomedical imaging, and neuroscience reflect increasingly interdisciplinary and collaborative areas of research and practice in health. The Manual also elaborates on the Library's collecting policy for many print and nonprint formats and literature types, such as journals, electronic resources, audiovisuals, digital images, and datasets. Other highlights include information about the Library's historical collections, and an updating policy to ensure that the CDM remains current until the next major revision. The URL for the CDM is: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/acquisitions/cdm/>

NLM Classification

Work on the 2005 edition of the online *NLM Classification* is underway, with publication slated for April. This year the focus of the content revision is the areas of military and naval medicine and veterans' health, as well as cells and genetics.

A link to the *NLM Classification* is now provided in the Library of Congress *Catalogers' Desktop*, a Web-based interface to a wide variety of cataloging tools.

NLM Policy on Subject Analysis and Classification Accessible to the Public

For the first time, the *NLM Policy on Subject Analysis and Classification* has been made available to the worldwide library community via the NLM Cataloging Section homepage¹, both in HTML² and in PDF³ format. In addition, a link to this NLM policy document has been included in the *Metadata and Cataloging Education Web Clearinghouse*, a library education portal for networked electronic resources useful for library and information science education now under development under the auspices of ALA/ALCTS/ALISE.

¹ <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/cataloging/mainpage.html>

² <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/cataloging/subjclasspolicy.html>

³ <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/cataloging/subjclasspolicy.pdf>

NLM (Web) Archives and Metadata Initiative

Additional cataloging staff has been assigned to the project to assure that NLM electronic resources are represented by bibliographic records in the library's online catalogs. To date, approximately one hundred-thirty (130) NLM electronic resources have been cataloged and the corresponding resources enhanced with enriched metadata emanating from the cataloging process.

NLM has developed a mechanism to display a user-friendly, labeled version of the metadata encoded in the header of any NLM electronic resource. This eye-readable information is accessible via a metadata link at the footer of each page of the NLM Web site.

Alternative NLM Catalog Search Interface under Entrez

NLM has created the NLM Catalog, a new Entrez database that debuted September 14, 2004. The NLM Catalog provides access to NLM bibliographic data for over 1.2 million books, journals, audiovisuals, computer software, electronic resources, and other materials via the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) Entrez retrieval system. The new database, built on an underlying XML DTD structure developed at NLM over the last several years, is an alternate search interface to the bibliographic records resident in LocatorPlus and supports automated mapping features and explosion of MeSH terms. This new database is available online at <http://nlmcatalog.nlm.nih.gov>.

NLM Bibliographic Records available for Lease in XML Format

In August 2004, NLM announced the availability of two new Extensible Markup Language (XML) products, CatfilePlus in XML and Serfile in XML. Both products contain bibliographic records derived from the MARC 21-formatted bibliographic records in NLM's LocatorPlus database, reformatted in XML to more closely correspond to the element names, attributes and file format used in MEDLINE® citations.

The applicable Document Type Definitions (DTD), data element and attribute descriptions, sample files and other information are available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/licensee.html> and <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/leased.html>.

CatfilePlus in XML and Serfile in XML are available for licensees to ftp on a monthly basis, with each month's file containing the appropriate records added, revised, or deleted in LocatorPlus during the previous month. The complete file of each product will also be regenerated on an annual basis.

NLM continues to offer CatfilePlus and Serfile in MARC 21 format as well as in XML. Catfile is available in MARC 21 format only.

Electronic Resources Management

Due to recent developments in electronic resource management systems by ILS vendors, NLM has put its plans to move forward on building a system in-house on hold until

the marketplace developments can be investigated and compared against NLM's requirements.

ILS

NLM participated as an early release partner for the Voyager Release 2003.1 (Unicode) and is awaiting updated General Release software before finalizing plans to upgrade. As part of the testing, a workstation was loaded with the IME (Input Method Editor) software needed to add data in Russian, Arabic, Korean, Chinese, Japanese and Hebrew for use by Cataloging staff.

The ability to send electronic data interchange (EDI) for purchase orders from Voyager was implemented with Majors.

Publications

The publication *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus* has a new title beginning in 2005: *List of Journals Indexed for MEDLINE*. The publication is being expanded to include all journals currently indexed for MEDLINE. In addition to the *Index Medicus* titles, there are about six hundred other journals that were or are associated with collaborating producers who routinely index citations such as the Kennedy Institute of Ethics.

The printed *Index Medicus*, started by John Shaw Billings in 1879 and published for 125 consecutive years, ceased with the December 2004 edition (Volume 45). NLM will continue to print an annual *Medical Subject Headings* and the printed *List of Journals Indexed in MEDLINE*.